Application No.: 09/746,496 Response dated October 3, 2003 Reply to Office Action of July 3, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are hereby requested.

A new abstract has been presented.

Applicant wishes to bring to Examiner's attention a related copending patent application Serial No. 09/745,573, Applicant: John K. Walton et al, filed December 21, 2000, T.C./A.U.:2133. A response was recently filed in that patent application, a copy is attached.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Block et al (USP 5,048,119) in view of Kim et al.

In order to more clearly distinguish over the cited references, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include:

checking the output to determine whether there has been a corruption of the delayed DATA.

The Examiner considers the discarding of data the same as corrupting data. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Discarding data is not corruption of data. Applicant corrupts data so that such corruption can be detected downstream, i.e., checked as to whether the output has been a corruption of the delayed DATA. as claimed in claim 1. The reference by discarding the data would prevent detection (i.e., checking) of corruption of the data downstream.

With regard to claim 2, Ive conceals a data parity bit. The Examiner considers the concealing of data the same as corrupting data. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In order to more clearly distinguish over the cited references, Applicant has amended Claim 2 to include:

checking the output to determine whether there has been a corruption of the delayed DATA.

Concealing data is not corruption of data. Applicant corrupts data so that such corruption can be detected downstream. The reference by concealing the data would prevent detection (i.e., checking) of corruption of the data downstream.

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Claim 3 and 4 have been amended to correct typographical spelling errors.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 50-0845.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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Attachments: copy of Response in copending application no. 09/745,573 filed August 22, 2003.

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